



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Water Quality

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

To: All Interested Parties

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 27, DIVISION 5. STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD, RULES GOVERNING ONSITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS; PROPOSED STATEWIDE WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS; AND DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

Available for review and comment are the Assembly Bill 885 (AB 885) Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) proposed regulations, proposed statewide conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements (proposed waiver), and draft environmental impact report (DEIR). We are sending you this notice because of your potential interest in this important subject.

The full texts of the proposed regulations, the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and the Initial Statement of Reasons are posted on the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board's) website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/septic_tanks/. The proposed waiver and DEIR are posted and are also available for review with the proposed regulations at the libraries listed on Enclosure 1 in this notice. You may also contact the person listed below for a copy. The documents are described below:

Proposed Regulations: The proposed regulations are intended for all OWTS statewide and contain differing requirements for new and existing OWTS. They are written to satisfy the requirements of sections 13290 through 13291.7 of the California Water Code. The proposed regulations will be included in Title 27, Division 5 of the California Code of Regulations and consist of the following four articles:

- Article 1: Definitions, applicability of the regulations, and general requirements;
- Article 2: Groundwater level determinations for new OWTS;
- Article 3: Requirements for supplemental treatment and OWTS dispersal systems;
- Article 4: Requirements for protecting impaired surface waters.

Proposed Waiver: The proposed waiver is independent of the proposed regulations but contains the same requirements. The proposed waiver will allow owners of OWTS to avoid filing a report of waste discharge to a Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) as long as the provisions of the proposed waiver are

complied with. Regional Water Boards would retain the authority to issue individual waste discharge requirements or region-wide waivers as long as they are no less stringent than the waiver proposed for adoption by the State Water Board.

DEIR: Adoption of the proposed regulations and proposed waiver is a discretionary action by the State Water Board and is therefore subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), California Public Resources Code section 21000 et seq. In compliance with CEQA requirements, a DEIR has been prepared for the proposed regulations and proposed waiver.

WORKSHOPS: State Water Board staff is also conducting eleven (11) public workshops and a hearing (see Enclosure 2) to receive oral and written comments regarding the State Water Board's proposed regulatory actions. We encourage attendance at any or all of these workshops regarding the proposed regulations, the proposed waiver, and DEIR.

COMMENTS: Comments on the proposed regulations, proposed waiver, and DEIR must be **received or postmarked on or before February 9, 2009**. Please submit comments regarding these documents to AB885@waterboards.ca.gov or to the address below:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
Attn: Todd Thompson, P.E.
1001 I Street, 15th Floor, P.O. Box 2231
Sacramento, CA 95812

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Todd Thompson (primary) at (916) 341-5518 or tthompson@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by 11/07/08

James George Giannopoulos, P.E.
Assistant Division Chief
Division of Water Quality

Enclosures

**The following is a list of public libraries where the State Water Board's
Draft Programmatic EIR for the Statewide Onsite Wastewater Treatment
Regulations is available for public review.**

San Diego Public Library 820 E Street San Diego, CA 92101-6416	Kern County Library 701 Truxton Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301
Orange County Public Library 1501 E. St Andrew Place Santa Ana, CA 92705	Riverside Central Library 3581 Mission Inn Avenue Riverside, CA 92501
Los Angeles Public Library 630 West 5th Street Los Angeles, CA 90071	Riverside County Library Palm Desert Branch 73-300 Fred Waring Drive Palm Desert, CA 92260
Fresno County Public Library 2420 Mariposa Street Fresno, CA 93721	Palmdale City Library 700 East Palmdale Boulevard Palmdale, CA 93550
Norman Feldheim Central Library 555 West 6th Street San Bernardino, CA 92410	Modesto-Stanislaus Central Library 1500 I Street Modesto, CA 95354
San Francisco Public Library Stegner Environmental Center Civic Center 100 Larkin St. San Francisco, CA 94102	Sacramento Central Library 828 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814
Fairfield-Suisun Community Library 1150 Kentucky Street Fairfield, CA 94533	Central Sonoma County Library 211 E Street Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Shasta County Library 1100 Parkview Ave. Redding, CA 96001	Humboldt County Library 1313 Third Street Eureka, CA 95501
Salinas Public Library 350 Lincoln Ave. Salinas, CA 93901	San Luis Obispo City-County Library P.O. Box 8107 San Luis Obispo, CA 93403

WORKSHOPS AND HEARING		
Mariposa Workshop	December 8, 2008; 7 p.m.	Board of Supervisors Chambers Government Center 5100 Bullion St. Mariposa, CA
San Andreas Workshop	December 9, 2008; 7 p.m.	Board of Supervisors Chambers 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA
Nevada City Workshop	December 10, 2008; 7 p.m.	Board of Supervisors Chambers Eric Rood Administrative Center 950 Maidu Avenue Nevada City, CA
Susanville Workshop	December 11, 2008; 7 p.m.	Lassen County Fairgrounds Jenson Hall 195 Russell Ave. Susanville, CA 96130
Redding Workshop	December 18, 2008; 7 p.m.	Board of Supervisors Chambers Shasta County Admin. Center, 1450 Court Street Redding, CA
Bishop Workshop	January 13, 2009; 7 p.m.	Tri-County Fairgrounds Sierra St. and Fair Dr. Bishop, CA
Riverside Workshop	January 14, 2009; 7 p.m.	Riverside County Supervisors Chambers 4080 Lemon Street Riverside, CA 92501
Malibu Workshop	January 15, 2009; 7 p.m.	Malibu High School 30215 Morning View Dr. Malibu, CA
Fresno Workshop	January 22, 2009; 7 p.m.	Fresno Unified School District Board Chamber 2309 Tulare Street Fresno, CA
Santa Rosa Workshop	January 27, 2009; 7 p.m.	Wells Fargo Center for the Arts Merlot Theater 50 Mark West Springs Road Santa Rosa, CA
Eureka Workshop	January 28, 2009; 7 p.m.	Eureka High School Auditorium 1915 J Street Eureka, CA
Sacramento Hearing	February 9, 2009; 1:30 p.m.	Byron Sher Auditorium Cal EPA Building 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA